

S. 1287

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DEFINITION OF A HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION.

Section 502(a)(5) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)(5)) is amended—

- (1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “and” after the semicolon;
- (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and
- (3) by striking subparagraph (C).

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. MILLER):

S. 1288. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exclude brachytherapy devices from the prospective payment system for outpatient hospital services under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce legislation, along with my colleague Senator MILLER of Georgia, that would amend the Medicare portion of the Social Security Act to exclude brachytherapy devices from the prospective payment system for outpatient hospital services under the Medicare Program. Currently, the number of devices reimbursed by Medicare is one set number and non-specific to the prostate cancer patient.

Prostate cancer accounts for 43 percent of all cancers found in men—more than triple the rate of lung cancer. The American Cancer Society estimates that nearly 221,000 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2003 and approximately 27,000 of these men will die as a result. The American Cancer Society also estimates that about 5,700 men diagnosed will be from Georgia and nearly 700 of them may die. This legislation will help some of these men fight and survive this indiscriminate killer. Over 130,000 men and their sons nationwide have been treated with brachytherapy Theraseeds to date.

Brachytherapy is an important form of radiation treatment for prostate cancer in which radioactive “seeds” are implanted into the patient. While there are several ways to treat prostate cancer, patients need the freedom to choose the treatment that best suits them and their situation. Tremendous variations exist that may effect the clinical requirements for cancer patients using brachytherapy theraseeds, including variations in the types of radioactive isotopes, as well as the number and radioactive intensity of the seeds. The brachytherapy community indicates that these variations result in considerable differences in total brachytherapy costs among patients, varying from several hundred dollars to over \$10,000 per patient. Prostate brachytherapy is different from many other clinical interventions because of the dramatic variability in the type, number and radioactivity of brachytherapy seeds needed to treat

each patient. This variability is due to differences in the clinical presentation from patient to patient, including the type, staging, and size of a patient's cancer. This variability also results in a broad range of costs per patient. This legislation will allow a more fair reimbursement for physicians who are using brachytherapy to treat prostate cancer patients. This bill will also allow Medicare patients to receive another type of therapy when making decisions and dealing with the reality of being diagnosed with prostate cancer.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this piece of legislation so that men suffering with prostate cancer will have more coverage under Medicare should they choose brachytherapy for their treatment.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 174—DESIGNATING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2003, AS “FEED AMERICA THURSDAY”

Mr. HATCH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 174

Whereas Thanksgiving Day celebrates the spirit of selfless giving and an appreciation for family and friends;

Whereas the spirit of Thanksgiving Day is a virtue upon which our Nation was founded; Whereas 33,000,000 Americans, including 13,000,000 children, continue to live in households that do not have an adequate supply of food;

Whereas almost 3,000,000 of those children experience hunger; and

Whereas selfless sacrifice breeds a genuine spirit of Thanksgiving, both affirming and restoring fundamental principles in our society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate

(1) designates Thursday, November 20, 2003, as “Feed America Thursday”; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to sacrifice 2 meals on Thursday, November 20, 2003, and to donate the money that they would have spent on food to a religious or charitable organization of their choice for the purpose of feeding the hungry.

SENATE RESOLUTION 175—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2003, AS “FAMILY HISTORY MONTH”

Mr. HATCH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 175

Whereas it is the family, striving for a future of opportunity and hope, that reflects our Nation's belief in community, stability, and love;

Whereas the family remains an institution of promise, reliance, and encouragement;

Whereas we look to the family as an unwavering symbol of constancy that will help us discover a future of prosperity, promise, and potential;

Whereas within our Nation's libraries and archives lie the treasured records that detail the history of our Nation, our States, our communities, and our citizens;

Whereas individuals from across our Nation and across the world have embarked on a genealogical journey by discovering who their ancestors were and how various forces shaped their past;

Whereas an ever-growing number in our Nation and in other nations are collecting, preserving, and sharing genealogies, personal documents, and memorabilia that detail the life and times of families around the world;

Whereas 54,000,000 individuals belong to a family where someone in the family has used the Internet to research their family history;

Whereas individuals from across our Nation and across the world continue to research their family heritage and its impact upon the history of our Nation and the world;

Whereas approximately 60 percent of Americans have expressed an interest in tracing their family history;

Whereas the study of family history gives individuals a sense of their heritage and a sense of responsibility in carrying out a legacy that their ancestors began;

Whereas as individuals learn about their ancestors who worked so hard and sacrificed so much, their commitment to honor their ancestors' memory by doing good is increased;

Whereas interest in our personal family history transcends all cultural and religious affiliations;

Whereas to encourage family history research, education, and the sharing of knowledge is to renew the commitment to the concept of home and family; and

Whereas the involvement of National, State, and local officials in promoting genealogy and in facilitating access to family history records in archives and libraries are important factors in the successful perception of nationwide camaraderie, support, and participation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of October 2003, as “Family History Month”; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 929. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements in the medicare program, to provide prescription drug coverage under the medicare program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 930. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 931. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GRAHAM, of Florida, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. REED, Mrs. CLINTON, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KOHL, Mr. DODD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. REID, Mr. DAYTON, and Mr. JOHNSON) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1, supra.

SA 932. Mr. ENZI (for himself and Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1, supra.

SA 933. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1, supra.

SA 934. Mrs. LINCOLN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 935. Mrs. LINCOLN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.